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LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1998 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 918 (1994) CONCERNING RWANDA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994 concerning Rwanda, which was adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 23 December 1998, and is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(Signed) Yukio SATOH
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 918 (1994)
concerning Rwanda

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Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994 concerning Rwanda covers the period from January to December 1998.

2. A report of the Committee covering its activities from 1 January to 31 December 1997 was submitted to the Security Council on 31 December 1997 (S/1997/1028).

II. SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

3. At its 7th meeting, on 6 January 1998, the Committee elected its bureau for 1998, which consisted of Ambassador Hisashi Owada (Japan) as Chairman, who following his departure was succeeded by H.E. Mr. Yukio Satoh (Japan), with the delegations of Bahrain and Sweden providing the two Vice-Chairmen.

4. Although the restrictions imposed by paragraph 13 of resolution 918 (1994) on the sale or supply of arms and related matériel to the Government of Rwanda were terminated on 1 September 1996 in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 1011 (1995) of 16 August 1995, all States are required to continue to implement the foregoing restrictions with a view to preventing the sale and supply of arms and related matériel to non-governmental forces for use in Rwanda.

III. OBSERVATIONS

5. The Committee does not have any specific monitoring mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the arms embargo, and would like to recall its previous observations that it relies solely on the cooperation of States and organizations in a position to provide pertinent information. During the reporting period, no violations of the arms embargo were brought to the attention of the Committee. In this regard, the Committee took note of Security Council resolution 1196 (1998) of 16 September 1998, in which, inter alia, the Council reiterates the obligation of all States to carry out the decisions of the Council on arms embargoes and also reiterates its request that all States report information on possible violations of arms embargoes established by the Council to the relevant Security Council Committees. The Committee also strongly endorses paragraph 2 of that resolution, in which the Council encourages each Member State, as appropriate, to consider as a means of implementing these obligations the adoption of legislation or other legal measures making the violation of arms embargoes established by the Council a criminal offence.

6. In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1196 (1998), the Committee intends to consider appropriate steps with a view to improving the monitoring of the arms embargo imposed against Rwanda, and to that end will establish channels of communication with relevant regional and subregional organizations and bodies.